

**Claims**

1. An arrangement for the holding of a steering column (10) to a cross-member (40) of a motor vehicle, in particular for a later screw connection of the steering column (10) and/or of a dashboard holder to the cross-member  
5 (40), with holding means (20, 60, 30, 50) being formed at the steering column (10) and at the cross-member (40) which cooperate in a pre-installation state such that the steering column (10) is held freely suspended at the cross-member (40).
- 10 2. An arrangement in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the steering column (10) can be hooked to at least one rear holding means, preferably to two rear holding means (50), of the cross-member (40) and can be hung onto at least one front holding means (60) of the cross-member (40) by a pivotal movement and a subsequent displacement.
- 15 3. An arrangement in accordance with claim 2, characterized in that the rear holding means (30) of the steering column (10) are formed as holding arms (30) which extend substantially parallel to the longitudinal central axis of the steering column (10) in the direction of a rear end of the steering  
20 column (10).
4. An arrangement in accordance with claim 3, characterized in that the holding arms (30) have a latch device (32, 34) for the securing of the steering column (10) to the cross-member (40) and in particular for the securing  
25 of the holding arms (30) to rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40).
5. An arrangement in accordance with claim 3 or claim 4, characterized in that the holding arms (30) each have a cut-out (32) at a lower  
30 side facing the steering column (10) in the region of a rear end and/or a hook-like projection (34), in particular a projection facing in the direction of the steering column (10).

6. An arrangement in accordance with any one of claims 3 to 5, characterized in that the connection of the holding arms (30) to the rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40) has clearance.

5                   7. An arrangement in accordance with any one of claims 3 to 6, characterized in that the rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40) each have an elongate bore (54) for the reception of one holding arm (30) each of the steering column (10), with the bores (54) extending in a direction in which the steering column (10) moves when screwed to the cross-member (40).

10                   8. An arrangement in accordance with claim 7, characterized in that the width of the elongate bores (54) is somewhat wider than the width of the holding arms (30) to be received and their length is dimensioned such that the holding arms (30) can move along the bores (54) when screwed of the steering  
15                   column (10) to the cross-member (40).

                    9. An arrangement in accordance with any one of claims 2 to 8, characterized in that the rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40) are formed in one piece with a support member (38) for the steering column (10)  
20                   which is fastened to the cross-member (40).

                    10. An arrangement in accordance with any one of claims 2 to 9, characterized in that the rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40) are each provided at a fastening section (46) of the support member (38) for a  
25                   fastening, in particular for a screw connection, of the steering column (10) to the cross-member (40) and each form a border of a corner region of the fastening section (46).

                    11. An arrangement in accordance with any one of the preceding  
30                   claims, characterized in that a front holding means (20) of the steering column (10) is made in the manner of a spigot and in particular faces in the direction of a front end of the steering column (10); and in that the front holding means (60)

of the cross-member has a bore (62) for the reception of the front holding means (20) of the steering column (10).

12. An arrangement in accordance with any one of the preceding  
5 claims, characterized in that a centering pin (36) is provided at the steering column (10) for the alignment of the steering column (10) with the cross-member (40) and/or with a dashboard holder.

13. An arrangement in accordance with claim 12, characterized  
10 in that a bore (44) is provided in each case at the cross-member (40) and/or in the dashboard holder and the centering pin (36) can engage into it on the correct alignment of the steering column (10), of the cross-member (40) and/or of the dashboard holder.

14. An arrangement in accordance with claim 12 or claim 13,  
15 characterized in that the holding means (30) of the steering column (10) and/or of the centering pin (36) are made in one piece with a steering column holder (12) which is fixedly connected to the steering column (10).

15. A method for the attachment of a steering column (10) to a  
20 cross-member (40) of a motor vehicle, in particular for a screw connection of the steering column (10) and/or of a dashboard holder to the cross-member (40), wherein the steering column (10) is hung onto the cross-member (40) by means of holding means (20, 22, 24, 30) formed at the steering column (10) and of  
25 holding means (50, 54, 60, 2), formed correspondingly at the cross-member (40) such that the steering column (10) is held freely suspended at the cross-member (40) in a pre-installation state.

16. An arrangement in accordance with claim 15, characterized  
30 in that the hanging of the steering column (10) to the cross-member (40) takes place by hooking the steering column (10) to at least one rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40), by pivoting the steering column (10) and by displacing the steering column (10) while inserting a front holding means (24)

of the steering column (10) into a front holding means (64) of the cross-member (40).

5 17. An arrangement in accordance with claim 15 or claim 16, characterized in that at least one rear holding means (30) of the steering column (10) is secured, in particular by a latch unit (32, 34), to a rear holding means (50, 54) of the cross-member (40).

10 18. An arrangement in accordance with any one of claims 15 to 17, characterized in that the steering column (10) is aligned with the cross-member (40) and/or with a dashboard holder by means of a centering pin (36) in the pre-installation state.

15 19. An arrangement in accordance with any one of claims 15 to 18, characterized in that the steering column (10) is screwed to the cross-member (40) and/or to a dashboard holder starting from the pre-installation state.

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